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CONC  
applying recessed annular forming faces of circular rollers of plural kinds against the flange-shaped portion and sequentially pressing the flange-shaped portion projecting outwardly from the circular bottom pattern tool and said circular top pattern tool, in a radially inward direction, thereby sequentially thickening a rear side of [said] the flange-shaped portion; and forming the thickened flange-shaped portion into a cylindrical shape which is concentric with the base plate, thereby forming the thickened annular peripheral wall.

Board Decision  
Please add the following new claims:

6. The method as defined in claim 5, wherein the flange-shaped portion is inclined relative to the base plate during the forming step.

7. The method as defined in claim 6, wherein the inclination changes as the flanged-shaped portion is sequentially pressed by the circular rollers.

#### REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of May 22, 1998 is acknowledged.

Claim 5 was pending for examination in this CPA, and the examiner has rejected this claim as unpatentable under 35 USC 103(a) over Yamanaka in view of Dais et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.


The sequential aspect of the method aspect of the present invention can be seen by reference to Figs 1-6. First, the sheet metal member 11 is drawn to form the base plate 12 and the flange-

shaped portion 13 connected by the stepped portion 14. Note that the flange-shaped portion 13 is inclined at an angle relative to the plane of the base plate 12. Note also that this inclination changes as we proceed from Fig. 2 to Fig. 6. It first increases and then decreases. The various rollers produce the annular peripheral wall 17 which is concentric with the base plate. This various steps are not seen in either Yamanaka or Dais et al. That is, the sequentially bending and pressing to the different angles and into the different shapes is not seen in these references.

Claim 5 has again been amended not to change its scope but instead to render it more precise. The sheet metal member is first drawn to form the basic shape and then further bent and pressed by the different rollers to form the final shape. In addition, new claims 6 and 7 have been added which complement claim 5 and deal with the flange-shaped portion angle.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested and claims 5-7 found allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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